

ENERGY ABSORPTION IMPACT SYSTEM AND
METHOD FOR VEHICLE BUMPERS AND THE LIKE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An energy absorption impact system for vehicle bumpers and the like includes a mounting plate with a central opening therethrough, and a generally box-shaped sheet metal crush member. The crush member has a top wall, a bottom wall and opposite sidewalls arranged in a generally frustro-pyramidal shape, defining a large end connected with a vehicle bumper, and a small end connected with the mounting plate about the central opening. Impact on the vehicle bumper inelastically deforms the walls of the crush member toward the central opening in the mounting plate to absorb energy associated with the impact.